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## CHILI, ISN'T IT?



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# CITY COLLEGE NEWS

MARCH 1994

GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE

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**FOLLIES** – Life at George Brown and in Toronto was the subject of an evening of satirical theatre, songs and dance performed by students in mid-February. Called *George Brown Follies*, the show included performances by students of the School of Classical and Contemporary Dance (above) including Martha Schabas (top) and Elizabeth Kiumari, and several musical numbers including one in which David Smye (below) did a take-off of both Hamlet and the Phantom of the Opera. See our review on page 7 for more details.



## More colleges adding graduate guarantees

AN INCREASING NUMBER of college graduates are entering the job market clutching guarantees as well as diplomas.

Colleges from Prince Edward Island and Chicago are starting to guarantee the skills of their grads – and are backing their claims with promises of free training.

*They say the guarantees will boost the image of their institutions and could increase graduate employment rates.*

Guaranteed graduates will enter Toronto's job market for the first time this spring when Durham College in Oshawa starts telling businesses that their grads will perform as promised or the college will take them back for more classes.

"We're saying we're accountable," says MaryLynn West-Moynes of Durham's public relations office.

While George Brown administrators admit that the guarantee could give Durham graduates an edge in some hiring situations, they aren't even considering making a similar offer.

The guarantees are simply marketing tools that are less important than the underlying reputation of the college and program, they say.

"Employers who have been hiring for any length of time know that George Brown graduates are excellent," says Placement Centre manager Judi Linton. "Only in the case of a new employer

could a guarantee make a difference."

The rigorous screening that job applicants are put through by most employers also makes it less likely that someone with a skill deficiency would get hired – guarantee or no guarantee, she says.

"If graduates aren't up to scratch they don't get the job in the first place."

The Durham guarantee allows only employers – not graduates – to seek remedial courses up to a year after graduates are hired.

Studies by Durham and experience at other colleges suggests that a very small percentage of employers ever make use of graduate guarantees, but those who do are happy to have it.

Using a guarantee allows employers solve a training problem at no cost, graduates to keep their hard-won jobs, and a college to polish its tarnished reputation, says West-Moynes.

"It's a win-win situation," she says.

For more than five years, graduates of some technology programs at Holland College in Charlottetown, P.E.I. have graduated with warranties listing hundreds of individual skills that they have learned in their two-year programs.

While employers liking the program – which is now being expanded to all technology programs – only two formally requested remedial help from the college in a two-and-a-half year pilot project that started in 1988, according to electronics teacher Fred Burke.

"It proved itself," he says.

But not everybody is as keen on the idea.

The guarantees, which have been adopted by many colleges in

## Comedian shut down after sexist comment

IN WHAT MAY BE A SIGN of changing times, a comedian was thrown off a George Brown stage recently for making a sexist comment.

Simon B. Cotter, was just ten minutes into his hour-long stand-up routine at a student pub at St. James in late January when he responded to a heckler with the sexist comment. The student complained to the campus student administrative council (SAC) and minutes later Cotter's microphone was turned off.

"His jokes concentrated on being derogatory to women and (echoed) the whole frat house attitude," says business student Marc Cooper, who was at the pub.

Cotter had just finished playing a 90-minute show at Casa Loma Campus where the situation was somewhat different. The audience there loved his act.

"He got rave reviews over here," says Andrew Cassar, SAC vice-president of activities at Casa Loma. "It was really weird, but St. James is a very hard place to play for."

According to witnesses at the St. James pub, Cotter found it difficult to build rapport with the audience from the very start of his routine. Many in the audience weren't paying attention to him, and some of those who were heckling him.

"It wasn't going over very

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# WHAT DO STUDENTS WANT? — P. 4

## HEARD IN THE HALLS

### Question for staff: How are you planning to use your six unpaid social contract days?



"I'm planning on going to San Francisco on P.D. for a bedding and upholstery show...I'm putting in for funding but if not, I'll take it from my own pocket."

Peter Topping  
Teacher  
Industrial Sewing  
Machine Mechanics  
Program  
Kensington



"I'm not taking any. There's no time for Raes until we've finished the budget, then maybe."

Frank Sorochinsky  
Vice-president  
Corporate Services  
and Student Affairs



"I already took mine and I stayed at home. My husband is a graduate student at the University of Windsor and he had time off, so I arranged to take that time to be with him. I also spent it with my daughter."

Rachel Philipose  
Librarian  
Casa Loma



"I took some time just before Christmas to visit friends in Pennsylvania. In March I'll take a few more days and just stay at home and relax."

Amber Stiebel  
Counselor  
College Vocation  
Program  
St. James

## Graduate guarantees

Continued from page 1

the United States including the community college system in Illinois, are an intrusion of thinking from the business world that shouldn't have a place in education, according to George Brown academic vice-president Patricia Groves.

They involve describing the complex process of learning in

simple and inappropriate commercial terms, and make colleges seem uniquely responsible for the outcome of their courses and programs as opposed to a shared responsibility between a college and students, she says.

"It's a marketing tool," says Groves. "I really don't think we're in the business of advertising."

## Cotter

Continued from page 1

well," says Child and Youth Worker student Russ Taylor, who was tending bar at the pub. "His material wasn't funny; it was just rude."

As events deteriorated, a woman in the audience reportedly threw a cup of beer at Cotter. When he reacted with a sexist comment, the woman stormed into the SAC offices demanding Cotter be silenced.

The irony of the situation is that Cotter says his material is aimed at breaking down the kind of sexual stereotyping for which he has been accused.

He says his stand-up routines are considered pro-gay and pro-feminist and he regularly raises money for women's groups, including Nelli's women's hostel in Toronto.

"I've never experienced anything like that," said an apologetic Cotter in a late February interview. "I've spent my entire career fighting against the type of attitude of guys like Andrew Dice Clay. I didn't mean for that to happen."

Clay, an American comedian, is known for sexist and homophobic comments.

Cotter says that if he'd been allowed to continue with his act, it would have proven to be quite a positive show.

St. James SAC representatives say it's unlikely they'll hire other comedians in the line of the fiasco, which cost SAC several hundred dollars.

"We'd have to tell (comedians), 'be careful of what you say', but at this point, I'd rather just not hire any comedians in the future," says St. James SAC president Shaun Hudson.

## Support staff okay no "Rae" day deal

George Brown support staff have okayed a no "Rae" day deal with the Ontario government.

According to the terms of the province-wide agreement ratified by staff on March 1, they join some administrators in breaking out of the social contract wage freeze.

Support staff, which includes office staff, day-care workers, computer technicians and maintenance staff, are now in line for a two per cent wage increase and benefit improvements in September, 1995.

George Brown teachers and some administrators have to wait until the end of the three-year social contract period in April, 1996 to see any change in their wages and benefits.

According to the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, 92 per cent of voting support staff at colleges across Ontario, including those at George Brown, ratified the social contract local agreement on March 1 — just hours before a deadline that would have led to another two years for them under the failsafe provisions of Ontario's social contract legislation.

At George Brown, 300 staff voted to ratify the deal and 26 voted against ratification.

The college has more than 540 support staff who make up more than a third of all full-time

employees.

By approving the agreement with the Council of Regents, which bargained for the government, support staff won a year without the so-called "Rae" days, followed by a two per cent wage increase and restoration of some benefit improvements.

The agreement includes the possibility of unpaid leave days in the year starting April 1, 1995 if social contract targets are not being met by

colleges. If the Council wants staff to take unpaid leave it must provide documentation — based on 1993/94 data — and give notice to the union by January 1, 1995.

In the past nine months all college staff earning more than \$30,000 have had the equivalent of six days salary deducted from their pay, and most have taken six days of unpaid leave. The savings, about \$2.9 million, are being used to offset social contract funding cutbacks from the provincial government.

In contrast to the support staff agreement, the salaries and benefit packages of teachers, counsellors and librarians (collectively called academic staff) and some administrative staff at George Brown will remain frozen until the end of the social contract period on March 31, 1996, and

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## Ontario takes more from college than it saves

THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT has taken more money from George Brown than it is saving as part of the social contract.

The government has deducted \$3.3 million from college funding — an estimated \$400,000 more than the amount actually saved by wage freezes and unpaid days taken by staff.

If George Brown doesn't get the money back it could make a bad financial situation worse with deeper spending cuts needed to balance the college's budget in the next year.

The \$3.3 million that the government deducted from funding over the past few months was based on estimates of the amount that would be saved by freezing wages of all staff and the six so-called Rae days that all college staff were forced to take by the end of March, 1994.

While final figures have yet to be compiled, the savings to the college from those unpaid days will only amount to about \$2.9 million — leaving the estimated \$400,000 gap.

George Brown isn't planning to make staff take an extra Rae day to meet the shortfall.

"We hope to recover this from the ministry," says college vice-president Frank Sorochinsky.

Getting the money back will take time, he says. It could be the end of the summer before all colleges can present audited statements of their Rae day savings that the province can use in making adjustments.

While some other colleges have also reported collecting too little money from unpaid days to meet funding cutbacks in the first of three years covered by the social contract, none have yet to report taking too much,

NOW IS THE TIME TO

## Celebrate Success!

Friday, March 4th is the nomination deadline for the 1994 Board of Governors' Awards of Excellence.



If you haven't submitted your nomination yet, **don't delay!** Pick up an Awards package at your Campus Manager's or SAC office today.

Return your completed form to the President's Office at 500 McPherson Ave. by Friday.



## NEWS SHORTS

### NOW THAT'S ITALIAN! HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM TAUGHT IN SENIORS' HOME IN WOODBRIDGE

They speak Italian and work in Italian, so George Brown taught them in Italian. January saw the graduation of 11 students from a special Home Support program offered to workers at Woodbridge's Friuli Centre. Sandra Bratti, head administrator of the government-subsidized senior citizens home, says George Brown was the only Toronto area college willing to offer the workplace program in Italian. "Other colleges' responses were all so negative," Bratti said. "I talked to (program co-ordinator) Helen Brown and she was so positive and willing to cooperate with us." The care givers were trained in life-saving, first aid, cooking and nutrition. They serve about 40 elderly people in the Woodbridge area and provide temporary family care relief as well.

### CREDIT CARD COMPANIES INVITING STUDENTS TO JOIN DEBTORS "CLUB"

Credit cards companies are trying to create new business with early recruitment and shrewd ad campaigns. The companies, who are currently signing up new cardholders on George Brown campuses, seem willing to lend money to students. They're also trying to win consumer loyalty by creating brand images, according to Bill Stanwick, Director of Cardmember Relationship Marketing at American Express, who spoke to George Brown's Marketing Club in February. While American Express has always appealed to a certain type of consumer by treating its customers as members in an exclusive club, Visa and Mastercard have recently jumped on the brand image bandwagon. Stanwick says, "We never really had to develop an image for our brands because there was already something there," he said. "Where as VISA and Mastercard have been trying for the last year or so to inject an image into their brands."

### CHIP TRUCK DISAPPEARS AFTER CITY ORDER TO MOVE FROM ST. JAMES DOOR

A chip truck has not returned to its permanent parking spot in front of St. James Campus after a late 1993 order to move a few feet away from the main door. The city ordered truck owner Mohammed Aslam to move his truck to clear the doorway in case of fire or other emergencies. The college and Versa Foods have been lobbying the City of Toronto for more than a year to have the truck moved. Aslam could not be reached for comment.

### COLLEGE ARCHIVES MOVES BACK TO CASA LOMA

After a 20-year tour of downtown Toronto, with stops on College Street and Kensington Market, George Brown's archives have returned home to Casa Loma Campus. The collection of student and college records, some of which date back more than 40 years, will reopen in March in the same room they started from at 146 Kendal Ave. The archives were housed for some time at the now defunct College Street Campus and most recently were in the basement of Kensington Campus, which is slated to close by April, 1995. The new space at Casa Loma, while larger than it was when the archives were established in 1975, can't contain all of the college's historical and corporate records. A considerable amount is warehoused off campus, says college archivist and educational resources manager John Hardy. The new archives phone number is 944-4771.



**HOME COMING:** George Brown chef apprentice graduate Stephanie Shipp (left) chats with current School of Hospitality students on February 17. Shipp returned to the college with her boss, world-renowned chef Anton Mosimann, to help with a cooking demonstration. Shipp has been working as a sous chef at Mosimann's exclusive London, England restaurant for over a year. Shipp says the key to such a prestigious job was - surprise, surprise - connections. "It's usually who you know," she says. "I worked for a chef who knew him and who contacted him before I went over (to England). That's not to say hard work can't land you a good job. The best time to apply for cooking jobs, the 1989 graduate told students, is September and March because the busy seasons have ended and there is usually a big turn-over in kitchen staff. Shipp plans to move on soon to a new job in Switzerland.



**GEORGE BROWN WINS BRONZE** - George Brown's Mitch McDermid powers around the poles to win bronze in the men's slalom event in the Ontario college ski championships at Georgian Peaks on Feb. 17. McDermid, a marketing student, has been ski racing for several years. George Brown struck gold in the Ontario college table tennis championships in Kingston on Feb. 26 when Ed Yee and Don Kan teamed up to take top spot in men's doubles competition. Yee, a business student, and Kan, a technology student, are now on their way to Nova Scotia for national finals in mid-March.

# Students will get powerful voice in new association

By Peter Vlamos

George Brown students could soon get a powerful new voice in a restructured, college-wide association.

The current three campus Student Administrative Councils (SAC) will be merged into single incorporated entity called the Student Association (SA) under one president, SAC representatives say.

Under the new SA bylaw, which was passed unanimously by SAC on Jan. 12, a full-time, salaried president will be hired by a student committee chaired this year by Student Services Director Susan Stylianos.

The president will chair a Board of Directors made up primarily of student representatives.

"We wanted the power to be in the hands of the board and then we wanted one person (the president) to be a representative of the board, to oversee the whole operation, and also be the voice of the Student Association," says Casa Loma SAC president Tim Kemp.

"The president's person who is hired by the board, and is best equipped to represent them out of the college, provincially and federally. Someone who also has the time to do it properly."

The total cost of incorporating the SA is \$4,000 including legal fees, Kemp says.

This spring, representatives will be elected from each of the three main campuses - Casa Loma, St. James and Nightingale - plus the School of Hospitality. Kensington students can run as representatives of Casa Loma and the theatre school falls under St. James' jurisdiction.

The bylaw includes a new representation by population scheme, by which every 250 full-time post-secondary students on

each campus equates into one council member, resulting in a college-wide total of 30 SA representatives. Included are 16 students from St. James, three from Hospitality, eight from Casa Loma/Kensington and three from Nightingale.

Filling those positions may be the council's biggest challenge next year. Six out of the 10 SAC executives on the present council, including all three presidents, won through acclamation in last

year's elections and less than 10 per cent of the student body bothered to vote.

The representatives from each campus will elect a vice-president to represent them on the Board of Directors.

The vice-presidents and four other student representatives - two of whom will be first year students, elected in the fall - will sit on the Board of Directors with voting privileges. The president

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## Wanted: president with experience

THE PRESIDENT of George Brown's new student association needs to know what he or she is talking about.

That's what student representatives decided in January when they included "experience in student government at George Brown" as one of the qualifications for the job.

This criteria may limit the potential number of qualified applicants, but it's needed, they say, in a college where most students spend only two years.

"As one group of student leaders develops an expertise on the issues and politics, the school year is over and the new president starts back on square one...there's a real learning curve," says Student Services Director Susan Stylianos, who is chairing the committee that will hire the new president.

The committee, made up of five student representatives, will hire a president in the next few weeks from among people who applied by the March 4 application deadline.

In future years the president - who will be paid between \$25,000 and \$40,000 a year and

can serve for a maximum of two one-year terms - will be chosen by the student association board of directors.

While college alumni can apply for the job - there's no limit how long ago someone could have been a student at the college - most advertising for the job has been internal.

Fliers advertising the job opening have been posted around George Brown campuses, but the council has made little effort to publicize the full-time position outside the school, says SAC business manager Colleen McDowell.

Although student association presidents at many colleges and universities work full-time and receive salaries, most are elected. In fact, the student association structure parallels the college's in many ways: the presidents of both are appointed by a board for a fixed term; the boards of both are made up of a combination of appointed and elected representatives; and appointed Board members represent different sectors of the community - in the association's case, continuing education students and alumni.

## What students want from colleges

## COMMENT

George Brown graduate Joanne Mastrucci, who now works at the Margaret Lawrence Housing Co-op in Toronto, gave the following address to the annual conference of the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario (ACAATO) in Kitchener in February. It has been edited for publication.

By Joanne Mastrucci

For the student of the 90's, classes are getting bigger, instructors have less time for their students, students have fewer job opportunities and greater family obligations. Some students are thrilled by the opportunities offered by general education and other are concerned it will waste their time when they could be studying a vocational subject. Some students are 18 and some are 75. Some are in college for general interest and some for career training, whether for their first career or their fourth. Some students have PhD's and some are barely literate. But there are a few things most of us have in common.

First of all, many of today's students are angry. They feel that just as a university education was beyond the means of many working class people, now even colleges are becoming equally inaccessible and elitist. As pressure increases on the colleges, with record numbers of applications, the colleges are able to pick and choose from among those most able to pay the increasingly high tuition and fees up front.

Students of the 90's want a fair chance to go to school and improve our lives. I think that for most of us the sheer reality of economics is the biggest factor in whether we go to school or not.



When the Ontario government reneged on all of its promises to students and eliminated OSAP grants in favour of an all loan system, I don't recall any college officials raising their voices and crying out to the government that this was hurting their students. After all, if one student was unable to attend because of this change, there were plenty ready ready to take their place.

Why can't a person on welfare go to college? It broke my heart every time one of my classmates had to quit school, sometimes with only a month or two to go, just so they could collect welfare to pay their rent. So there they were, no diploma, sitting at home or looking for work. We should be encouraging all levels of government to make social service programs "student friendly" with a view to improving all our futures.

Secondly, today's students are frustrated by bureaucracy. I have spoken a length to college students about such things as student centred learning, general education requirements, standardized credits, and other concepts that the Ministry and college administrations are cur-

rently wrapped up in. I hate to tell you this, but most of the students I spoke to don't give a damn...most students would rather just, have more of their instructors time and attention. It seems that every full-time instructor I know is so committed-out because of things like Gen Ed, curricular review and other bureaucratic requirements that they no longer have time to spend with their students.

Students of the 90's are questioning what college is actually preparing them for. When I started in the Community Worker program at George Brown in 1991, there were 60 full-time first-year students. In 1993, just two years later, there were 90 full-time first-year students. The college had not been able to increase the number of instructors or even offer larger classrooms. Slowly you start to feel less like a student who is special and unique to your instructor and more like just a face in the crowd of the classroom. Is this what the college experience should be? Is college giving us the message that we are being prepared for a life of anonymity as a cog in an institutional wheel? Or should colleges be attempting to prepare proactive students who can assess situations critically and take an active role in determining their lives?

Students of the 90's are less tolerant of poor service. Most of us have worked and many of us are in service industries. All I can say to those of you who work in student services...remember who pays your salary. We do. We are both tax payers and tuition payers. I'm not asking you to grovel and scrape, but please show a little courtesy and public service. Too often the attitude seems to be "Gee, this college would run so smoothly if only we could get rid of those pesky students." I cannot begin to count the tales of standing in four-hour lines

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## Raffle questions

To the Editor,

It's about the raffle for the Student Emergency Fund (held Feb. 10). The flyers advertising the raffle said there was a free year's tuition, a week in Florida, a continuing education course, a career assistance package, a comedy evening, a dinner for four and a gourmet dinner, "plus many, many more."

I bought 10 tickets thinking if there's many, many more than there's a good chance that I could win a prize. Well, today I saw a listing of the winning numbers and there were no more prizes. There were only those prizes that were listed. So this "plus many, many more" is just false advertising - there were no more prizes.

Next time they hold a raffle, if there aren't any more prizes, they should say there are.

I also found it strange that the person who won the first prize, a year's tuition at college, had ticket number 008. I'm wondering if someone who was running the raffle bought that ticket because they would have had to be the eighth person to buy a ticket. Maybe not but it is strange that the only person near the beginning won the first prize.

Karen (last name withheld on request)

Student Life Manager Frankie Chernin replies: "There were in fact several other prizes in the draw including aerobic classes, a certificate for lingerie, t-shirts, sweatshirts and a ski boot bag. These were raffled to people who attended the Student Emergency Fund pub on Feb. 10. This should have been stipulated on the tickets, and in the future it will be. All prizes were drawn publicly at the pub with about 200 people as witnesses. The fact that the first prize went to a person with a low numbered ticket is pure chance. The winner was, in fact, a student at Casa Loma. While you didn't win a prize, you may take some comfort in the fact that proceeds from the raffle, including yours, will be used to help students in desperate financial need."

## Staff/student interaction

To the Editor,

I think it would be wonderful if George Brown could do something serious about making support staff - administration, secretaries, clerical workers, maintenance, kitchen staff - everyone - feel as though they are part of the fabulous learning experience here at the college.

We all came here to take courses taught by some very fine teachers, but no progress would be possible without the many wonderful people who work outside of the class room to make learning possible. I can't count the number

## LETTERS

of times I've had a hard time with something or other and had a chat with Seymour Stewart, a maintenance worker; or Mr. Khan in security; or Jane or David in registration. I doubt that I would still be here trying to hang in and learn despite the odds, if it weren't for these people.

So I'm wondering, should college just be about students learning facilitated through the taxes of those who serve us? It doesn't seem fair.

Lets see what we can do to help everyone who is a part of the college to feel like they're benefiting from the George Brown experience. Now!

Maybe something could be developed to give staff members free courses or seminars during the workday and/or at night school. Maybe the college could launch a special initiative to help workers interested in a career change to make the transition from full-time work to study. Help in leading them to new and exciting options for work and development.

The challenge of building a happy and dynamic college community is something which you and other members of our community can undertake through our special skills and insights. But the well being of those people who make our progress possible is something which none of us should ignore.

We've got to care. We've got to put our conscience, our creativity, our input into the building of George Brown and all the institutions that we care about. If we don't, well, we just might not like the kind of Toronto, the kind of Ontario, the kind of Canada, or the kind of world that we're faced with tomorrow.

Let's make a difference. Let's not wait for progress and justice to just happen by chance.

Shelley Lambie  
St. James Campus

## HERE'S HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY!

City College News wants you to have your say! If you're concerned about a topic, event or issue that you think will be of interest to the college (i.e., course name, job, etc.), write a letter or an article, or just suggest a story idea to us. Here's how you do it.

1. Make sure your submission is legible (it can be typed or handwritten), keeps to the point, and is brief. If it's too long we may edit for length as well as for grammar and spelling.
2. Sign your submission and include your full name, telephone number, address and some indication of your affiliation with the college (i.e., course name, job, etc.).
3. You may request that your name be withheld from publication. We will respect your request if you provide us with a reason.
4. We welcome anonymous story suggestions, news tips or other material; however, as in all cases above, City College News staff and its editorial board will make decisions about what will be published.
5. Keep a copy of what you send to us. We will not return unsolicited material, including photographs, unless we are provided with a stamped, self-addressed envelope.
6. Drop off your submission in a sealed envelope at the mail slot in the information booths in the front lobby of 200 King St. E., at St. James Campus or the third floor entrance of 150 Kendal Ave. at Casa Loma, or send it by Canada Post or internal college mail to:

Editor, City College News, Marketing Services Department, 200 King St. E., Room 542E, George Brown College, Toronto, Ont. M5A 3W6 or fax it to (416) 867-2303.

The deadline for submissions and letters for our April issue is March 20.

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## CORRECTION

Transcription errors occurred the last paragraph in the article by Claire Smith-Victor titled *Proud of my race*, published on this page in the February issue of *City College News*. It should have read: "I would suggest to the College that while it is a good thing to celebrate Black History Month, we need to take it all year round. One way of doing so is to offer courses with significant historical content of Black people and history. This would certainly be in keeping with their Academic Plan 2002 and Educational Equity." For a complete copy of the original article please call Claire at 944-4737.

## CITY COLLEGE NEWS

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Editor: Neil McGillivray

**Editorial Board:**  
Marc Cooper, Winnie Cheng, Fran Dungey, Jill Holroyd, Sue Thomson, George Brown College, St. James Campus, 200 King St. E. Room 542E. Mailing address: P.O. Box 1015 Station B, Toronto, M5T 2T9. Phone (416) 867-2060. Fax (416) 867-2303.

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**GEORGE BROWN**  
THE CITY COLLEGE

# MASTER

## George Brown teacher Bernie Gaidosch writes the book on writing an essay

By Peter Vamos

As the school year approaches its end, the grim reality has begun to set in -- a large chunk of your final mark depends on that most dreaded of assignments: the major research essay.

For many, essay writing is a skill they've never really acquired, nor ever felt the need to. You'll never write an essay in the real world, so what's the big deal? You don't even really understand what your professor is looking for in your essay. There's a certain technique that some students have mastered but you can't put your finger on it.

The assumption is once you've reached this level, essay writing technique has already been taught. Those left unsure can always refer to one of those dry texts that leave you napping on the couch half way through the first example: *The Essence of Plurality in Kafka as Contrasted with Virginia Woolf's Methodology*. Yikes.

Well, George Brown English professor Bernie Gaidosch is trying to make the lives of students a little easier. He's written a book on essay writing that takes a common sense approach, using everyday examples and a hip, modern style that he hopes will result in an essay guide accessible to the people who need it most: the average student.

His book *Common Sense: A Short Guide to Essay Writing*, attempts to talk to students about contemporary topics and through examples written mostly by his former pupils. Gaidosch sees a gulf between the realistic needs of students and the ways in which most guides address those needs.

"I find the texts that use Pierre Berton, Margaret Atwood or Mavis Gallant all wonderful examples of writing, but when students are just trying to put sentences and paragraphs together and then see this thing that is written by a wonderful writer, (that is) so polished, if anything it may serve to daunt the neophyte writer rather than to encourage."

It took Gaidosch three years to write the book in which he tries to address specific problems he's encountered through years of marking essays. One of the most prevalent difficulties, he says, was that students often hand in what should be their preliminary work as their finished essays.

"Generally what would happen is people would do this intellectual fumbling through the course of their essay and by the

time they arrived at the end of the essay they had a clear sense of what it was they were trying to prove."

Yet since they draw their conclusion only through the process of writing the essay, often the concluding paragraph doesn't match the thesis statement at the start of the essay. "They thought they were writing the essay," he says. "Invariably they were doing the preliminary work and they ended up with the focus of that essay at the end of that preliminary work."

The essay guide stresses the importance of the opening of the essay matching the conclusion. The body of the essay, the guide says, should make use of all the pieces of information that drew you to a conclusion and the opening paragraph should strongly state that conclusion.

In essence an essay is not unlike a conversation between friends, Gaidosch says, where something you know to be true is challenged by a friend and it is up to you, through knowledge and examples, to prove your point.

In the book he sights two students talking about the Rolling Stones. One states the Stones are the greatest rock band ever and is challenged by the other to prove it. The student simply recalls in dialogue all the information he can about the band. Gaidosch then turns this conversation into an essay.

"If you know who the Stones are and are at least mildly interested then I can engage you, I think, in listening to this idea about how essay writing is similar to what you do everyday in your life," it reads.

Engaging readers through such contemporary references was a prime consideration in writing the guide. Along with the Rolling Stones, Gaidosch makes use of such essays in the book as Body Image, investigating the

impact of mass media on what we perceive as the perfect female body -- an image few women can live up to; and an essay called *Siegel and Shuster - Superman's Real "Parents"*, about the social impact on America of Superman comics in the 1930s.

number one motivation.

The book discusses two particular problem areas that Gaidosch has come across as a teacher. A section called What an Essay is Not examines what Gaidosch calls the "empty vessel view" and the "mechanical view."

The book itself is laid out in a contemporary style with illustrations, grey screened boxes and alternating fonts. Even the red, orange and green cover draws on pop culture with a photo featuring a Toronto Blue Jays cap, a walkman and a Pearl Jam tape atop a pool table. It looks more like a new book by Douglas Copeland than an essay guide. But helping students develop a superior essay writing technique was Gaidosch's

The empty vessel view refers to students who ignore the introduction-body-conclusion format of an essay and simply gather all the information they can in an attempt to fill the required number of pages as if the blank pages were a container.

The mechanical view reflects the notion that because an essay is split into three parts-introduction, body, conclusion-students often treat each part separately, making some general introductory statement, sighting examples that deal with the topic in the body and from these examples they draw a conclusion.

They "become similar to, say, the mechanical parts of an old clock that somehow fit together but can't be made to work in an integrated way." Gaidosch says in the book. "You write the three parts of the essay and then can't get them to say the same thing."

It's the conclusion, Gaidosch says, that is the most important part of the essay, because that ultimately acts as the answer to the essay question. For this reason, he suggests writing the conclusion first. Students should then use the information and thinking that led to the conclusion in the body and the introduction or thesis paragraph should be written last, as a gene-

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## Building a better essay: Here's how

From *Common Sense: A Short Guide to Essay Writing* by Bernie Gaidosch, Harcourt Brace and Company, Canada, 1994.

### Conclusion

- Write the conclusion first after you do your research and have formed a view of the topic.
- The conclusion is the essence of your answer: "What I'm trying to prove to my reader"
- To keep your focus, write the conclusion in one sentence as a reminder and refer to it to avoid going off topic.
- If you change your view of the topic, you have to change your conclusion.
- State your conclusion strongly.
- Using your conclusion as your starting point, "backtrack" to write the body.

### Body

- Write the body by looking back to what led you to your conclusion.
- Omit unnecessary points and keep only the most relevant.
- The number and depth of points will vary according to the length of your essay.

- Use your main points to create an outline.
- Arrange the points from weakest to strongest.
- Where possible arrange the points logically: A-B-C-D.
- If you change your conclusion, change your points.

### Introduction

- Write the introduction last, because you need to know your conclusion before you can announce it.
- The introduction is basically the same as the conclusion, because both tell what the answer is.
- The introduction differs from the conclusion in tone; the conclusion is stated strongly, while the introduction captures the reader's interest.
- The introduction is a signpost for the reader.
- Use direct statement of your answer, an "attention-grabber" or interesting background information to get your reader to pay attention.
- Include your answer and your main points in the introduction.

ral overview of the essay (Here's what I'm going to prove and here's how I'll prove it.)

"When you see the process of writing an essay in terms of answering a question, you see that there is a remarkable wholeness about the entire essay," Gaidosch writes. "That is, all the parts... are just elements of the same thing; the answer. The conclusion states the answer, the body supports it and the introduction announces it."

Learning a proper essay writing technique is something students should be able to take with

them through life Gaidosch says. Developing a good technique should help us express our views in our day-to-day lives.

"If you work for Greenpeace or if you work for a political party or if you're an employee on the shop floor, if you want to advocate something in which you believe, this will help you.

"If you have to put a proposal in a suggestion box for your plant manager, you can articulate that clearly... This is the greatest skill, I think, we can learn and we can carry it with us the rest of our lives."

## What students want

continued from page 4

only to encounter a receptionist chatting on the phone making dinner plans and snarling at the clamouring students.

We are far less tolerant of slow, incompetent or rude service than students of yesteryear. We know from our own work experience what to expect from a service provider. I think that the consumer/service provider role is one that has no place in student/teacher relationship, but it is one which is applicable to the student services area. I am not criticizing all employees in all colleges, for many are dedicated to helping students. However, there seems to be too little attention paid to streamlining services or changing them to accommodate increasing numbers of students. For instance at George Brown, there is one Financial Aid office. Every student receiving OSAP from every campus would descend on this office every September and January. The line

ups were legendary. Was it impossible to have satellite offices at other campuses? Could the college not afford to hire two or three temporary workers during these crunch times? These are questions students of the 90's ask.

What students of the 90's want is opportunity and a well-rounded education. For me, learning-centred, not student-centred, is the concept that colleges should be embracing. Let's create an environment where instruction and interaction are the warp and student services are the weft of the fabric of learning. Let's get real about accessibility for the average student. Let's offer every student the opportunity to learn vocationally-based skills and to be exposed to more esoteric ideas that will increase their ability to be autonomous, thoughtful citizens. Let's return to the philosophy of education as a right and a duty, not a privilege.

## Follies delightful

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preneur Dave Nichols performed by Christine Gaidosch.

Give Us A Dream is probably every department's love letter to John Rankin. It was also one of the show's best adaptations. Mister Sandman never sounded so good.

Overall the show was a splendid revue of the talent in our theatre and dance schools. But once in a while there seemed to be just one or two punch lines missing that could have linked the show together to really make it a true GBC extravaganza.

For example, during Bay Street, a lovely scene with excellent choreography, I kept waiting for the punch line that never appeared. Just a mention of how those Bay Street workers are now laid off and being retained at GBC would have made it a true GBC satire. Instead it stood isolated and apart from the GBC world.

There are so many things about GBC that provides friendly humour. Everywhere we turn,

whether we are staff or student, we can see, or should see, the lighter side. If the GBC Follies does become an annual event, which I hope it will, I only hope its creators improve it by adding the input of the many other employees at GBC, in an effort to really make it a total GBC experience. George Brown College is a big world connected by more than just voice mail and inter-office envelopes. Each department and division is unique and needs to be represented in a silly and nonsensical way.

Another improvement would be to follow the lead of many small theatres and have a pay-what-you-can matinee or half-price preview, to be accessible to more staff and students.

The '94 Follies finally captured my attention. The finale said it all: "The college that never sleeps" Definitely, this production demonstrates that our performing arts department is always awake and creating.



**CALENDAR PERSONS** — Jewellery Arts student Deanne Nizamudin (left), Ceramics student Mike Peters, are included in a Celebrating Diversity calendar published by the college in late February. Nizamudin was born in Guyana, Peters is a member of the Ojibway tribe. The calendar is to be distributed free to staff and students at Kensington and Casa Loma campuses as part of Celebrating Diversity Week, which starts on February 28.

## Support Staff okay no 'Rae' day deal

continued from page 2

both staff groups could be required to take unpaid leave in both of the next two years.

The Council of Regents, however, has adopted a policy of equity between staff groups in colleges that makes it unlikely that they will be asked to take unpaid leave in the next year, says Ian McArdle, Secretary of the Council's Human Resources Committee.

Academic staff, whose union representatives withdrew from talks with the Council of Regents in mid-February, are now the only staff group without a local social contract agreement. Under the failsafe provisions of the legislation, which applies to them now, they can be required to take up to 12 unpaid leave days a year.

Representatives of the academic bargaining unit of the Ontario College Service Employees Union were unavailable for comment.

The Administrative Staff Consultative Committee, which represents administrators at Ontario colleges, including about 100 at George Brown, reached a social contract agreement with the Council in August, 1993 that includes a wage and benefit freeze for the last two years of the social contract period. A two per cent salary increase starting in January, 1995, that is part of the agreement, will be paid to George Brown administrators. Others, who got a merit increase in January, 1993, will not get the raise according to Sally Layton, a director of Human Resources at George Brown.

According to government figures, the staff wage freeze in 1994-95 should be enough to make up for reduced college funding that year, says McArdle.

Freezing the salaries of all staff at George Brown will allow the college to recoup an estimated \$2.8 million of the \$3.4 million in

reduced funding. But it must "deal" with the difference, which could be as high as \$600,000, in the coming financial year in some way, says Sorochinsky.

There is also a \$400,000 gap between social contract funding reductions and salary savings in the current year ending in March, he says. (See story on page 2.)

The government will develop a "final reconciliation" of its projected savings for colleges and actual savings in the coming months that could adjust the targets for individual colleges while still meeting the \$40 million annual goal, McArdle says.

The social contract aims to be financially neutral for colleges with funding cutbacks equalling salary savings as closely as possible, he says.

Nevertheless, the wage increases and benefit improvements for support staff in the March 1 agreement will add costs to the college in the financial year starting April 1, 1995, Sorochinsky says.

Under the agreement, support staff earning over \$30,000 — the low income cutoff point for social contract — will get a two per cent pay increase on September 1, 1995. They will also have maximum annual reimbursement under their dental plan increased to \$2,000 for some types of work, and will have a current three-year reimbursement cap on health costs of \$10,000 removed.

The agreement also ensures

that the vacation entitlement of support staff is not affected, and reduces the financial penalty for early retirement by staff.

The March 1 deal also includes a section that could eventually increase training at colleges or by college staff.

The union and Council agreed to "work towards ensuring that the Province of Ontario will use the college system as the trainer of choice" for the public sector.

## ADMINISTRATORS: Here's your chance to join City College News' Editorial Board

When Ron Waldie joined the City College News' Editorial Board two years ago he was a chair. When he resigned in February he was a dean. Coincidence? We don't think so. The informal monthly meetings of the Board are a perfect way to keep in touch with all sectors of the college's community and contribute to better communication. Do yourself, and your career, a favour. Call Yasmin Walli at 867-2059 today and make an appointment for an interview.

## GOT A GRIPE AT 2 A.M.?

Give City College News a call on its new 24-hour comment line



Do you have an opinion about George Brown College that you'd like to share with our readers?

Give us a call at 867-2279 and leave a message up to five minutes in length. We'll transcribe your call and publish it in the next issue of City College News as a letter. Don't forget to add (and spell) your name and your phone number.

# George Brown Follies delightful, but satire fails to skewer college

By Lisa Trudel

A small but enthusiastic audience — a virtual “who’s who” of George Brown College — settled into the Betty Oliphant Theatre on Feb. 17 for the George Brown Follies of ‘94.

Before the curtain raised, anticipation about this satirical revue ran high among co-workers from across the college. A good friend of GBC, all anxious to see themselves and their departments in satire on stage.

We were treated to a delightful two hours that was fun, fresh and quite fabulous. The show was a surprising treat: excellent directing, superb music, by a great band, amusing lyrics, monologues with wit, graceful dancing that even included a kick-line and an energetic, talented cast.

It was an uplifting production that showcased performers who will most likely be seen on professional stages in the very near future.

The only item missing in the production was a total George Brown College satire representing all the campuses. The show was more of a performing arts department satire.

Waiting for Hugo, a very

## REVIEW

funny scene, was one moment that got close to capturing GBC at its irreverent satirical best. Our maintenance department definitely got the spotlight.

Also in the spotlight were the creative talents involved in achieving this first rate production. Director Richard Ouzounian, musical director David Walden, choreographers Robert McCollum and Debbie Wilson, lighting designer Ron Snippe, costume designer Linda Johnson and all the technical crew deserve accolades.

As does the whole youthful cast. Two distinctive stand-outs were Kimberly Soper in Taboo in Tahiti and Jeffrey Smith in Walk the Walk.

Producer John Price should be extremely proud of this show, for it celebrated not just the talent that GBC offers the theatre and dance worlds, but also, through its words and lyrics, it celebrated all walks of life.

Walk the Walk was the show’s highlight. It was far from satire and silliness, but by the time it appeared in act two, it was obvious that this wasn’t necessarily an

evening of GBC satire.

It was a scene where love and friendship were celebrated regardless of sexual orientation. It surpassed the usual boundaries and asked us all to walk the walk and to understand what a friend is for. It was a strong and proud musical selection that should be nominated as a theme song for our city’s annual Walk for Life march in support of AIDS research.

Other scenes tried to capture the college’s commitment to diversity, though One Leg Too Few and its lead character Mr. Spigot seemed strangely reminiscent of a scene from the British classic Beyond the Fringe, rather than a tribute to our Special Needs Department.

The wide range of humour from Make em Laugh, with its slapstick, pie-in-the-face routine, to Early Childhood Education and its “to breed or not to breed?” question kept me chuckling.

Amusing musical numbers included A Politically Correct Love Song, performed by the talented Esther Arbeid and Memories of Me was a wonderful serenade to Canadian entre-

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## CITY COLLEGE CHEWS

# Award-winning chili with salsa and pita

This is the winning recipe from the second *Great Canadian Chili Contest*, held Feb. 7 in the School of Hospitality. The recipe, Chili Con Carne with Salsa and Pita, was created by advanced chef apprentice students Damian Harrington and Ian Riddick. Both are due to graduate in April.

## Chile Con Carne with Salsa and Pita

### INGREDIENTS:

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 700g | Top round sirloin (1/3"-1/2" cubes)       |
| 3-4  | Medium size onions                        |
| 1    | Garlic bulb (finely chopped)              |
| 2    | Green peppers (1/4" diced)                |
| 2    | Red peppers (1/4" diced)                  |
| 2    | Yellow peppers (1/4" diced)               |
| 1    | 796ml can tomatoes (crushed and seedless) |
| 1    | 400ml can tomato sauce                    |
| 60g  | Chili powder                              |
| 600g | Red kidney beans                          |
|      | Beef stock                                |
|      | Chicken stock                             |
| 200g | Unsalted butter                           |
| 1tsp | Cinnamon                                  |
| 1tsp | Oregano                                   |
| 1tsp | Ground cloves                             |
| 1    | Bunch of cilantro (chopped)               |
|      | Salt                                      |
|      | Pepper                                    |



### METHOD:

Sear the top round sirloin in a pan with one chopped onion, butter, cinnamon, clove and oregano. Once the beef is seared, add beef stock (twice as much as beef by volume) and simmer for 45 minutes or until tender.

Once the beef is braised put to side on a low to medium heat and start the chili sauce by cooking the beans in an equal amount of chicken stock. Add a pinch of salt to the beans.

Place butter in a pot and sweat the onions, garlic, celery and cilantro. Add chili powder and stir until all ingredients are coated. Add the tomato sauce and cook on a medium heat for at least 30 minutes. This will dissolve the chili powder and develop a smooth texture to the sauce.

Add the remaining tomatoes, crushed and passed through a strainer, and cook the chili sauce until the beans and beef are ready then add them to the sauce as well.

In a separate pan cook the peppers slowly over a medium heat (this preserves the colour and enhances flavour) and then add to the chili.

Adjust flavour with salt and pepper.

Serve with salsa and pita. Serves eight to 10.

# Student association

continued from page 3

will chair but not have voting privileges. Also on the board, but not voting, will be a salaried SA business manager, a representative of the college staff, a part-time student and an alumni.

Once the Board of Directors is established, it will hire presidents for a maximum of two one-year terms. A hiring committee made up of SAC representatives will appoint next year’s president from a group of eligible applicants in the next few weeks.

Along with chairing the board, the president will run the corporation and represent the Student Association outside the college, Kemp says.

“I’ve talked to a lot of colleges across Canada,” he says “and the feeling is that the (position of) president should really be a full-time job. They’ll have to sit on many councils both in the college and outside...presidents are asked to attend five to ten provincial and national committees a year, which can take up a lot of time.”

Kemp himself was asked in January to oversee the restructuring and act as the college’s representative externally. He has put his studies on hold and has been acting de facto president since then.

The push to incorporate came last year when Kemp was visiting the University of British Columbia for a conference.

“They have a fairly profitable

student association,” he says, “and it all started for them with a student’s centre. Being incorporated, they control the student centre so it gives them a lot of leverage and a lot of leeway as to what they can do.”

The restructuring comes as council has been struggling to build its own new student centres at Casa Loma and St. James. Fifteen per cent of the council’s \$750,000 annual budget is set aside for the centres each year (and 30 per cent goes to athletics) but final plans have yet to be approved.

By incorporating the student government, they will take responsibility for their own budgets and liabilities, Kemp says. Taking on such risks as running a student centre, which would have otherwise been the responsibility of the college, will result in profits as well, they hope.

Here at George Brown, SAC’s recent money-making endeavors have generally been failures, says business manager Colleen McDowell.

“We’re going to have to look into new ways of increasing our revenues. Our SAC Shack has traditionally never made any money,” she says. “This year we’re hoping to cover costs and next year we’re hoping to make money.”

“Our pubs in the last two years have not made any money.

This year we won’t even cover our costs with the bands we had in but next year we’re hoping to change that and have a business plan made up.”

McDowell says she hopes to hire marketing students to sell time to outside advertisers on GBFM, the school’s radio station, to further generate income and hire students to run their other activities such as pubs.

But the axis of the plan is the new SA, the theory being a well-run corporation can and will generate money.

“We’re eliminating some of the costs we had this year,” McDowell says. “Last year all executives were hired through the summer. We won’t have that expense this summer.”

Only the president and business manager will be receiving full-time salaries through the coming summer, she says. Last year SAC paid its ten executives \$6,000 each to work through the summer.

Council representatives estimate SAC spent nearly \$90,000 over last summer alone.

Representatives will receive an honourarium of between \$25 to \$440 a month depending on work done for council. Vice-presidents are guaranteed \$440.

General elections must be held on or before April 15 and the application deadline for the president’s job was March 4.



**CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATED** — George Brown celebrated Chinese New Year on February 11 with some fabulous food. Students and staff sampled Chinese food in the School of Hospitality atrium at lunch that day (above). More serious feasting was done in the evening at a dinner sponsored by the college, the Ontario Chinese Restaurant Association and the Oriental Culinary Arts Society in Siegfried’s Dining Room.

# MARCH EVENTS

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Feb. 28 – Diversity Week Official Kick-off.** Buffet lunch at Siegfried's. Tickets \$4 through the School of Hospitality. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (Limited seating) All proceeds to support the International Student Network. Live music and displays in the atrium open to everyone.

**March 1 – Games, displays and exhibitions** to celebrate Diversity in Athletics in the Casa Loma gymnasium and cafeteria. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

**– Diversity Week Prejudice Reduction Workshop** (open to 40 participants). Other workshops and speakers planned (see details in Feb. 28 DIALOG calendar)

**March 2 – Labour Fair** at St. James, 200 King St. E. Events, displays and entertainment from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sponsored by the School of Labour and OPSEU 556 and 557.

**– Mini-caravan** with international food and costumes at Kensington Campus (21 Nassau St.) starting at 11 a.m. in the Canada Room.

**March 9-10 – Food Drive** at Casa Loma and St. James. Bring non-perishable food items to your SAC offices. Call 867-2454 for more information.

**March 9 – Close of Nominations** for student representative on George Brown's Board of Governors. Any full or part-time student is eligible. For information call Jeannette Cairns at 944-4472. Nomination forms are available from campus managers.

## ENTERTAINMENT

**March 3 – Student/Staff Pubs.** In the Casa Loma staff lounge noon to 2 p.m., and in the St. James student lounge 2-7 p.m.

**March 8 – Professional billiard player** Gerry Watson will be giving a demonstration in the Casa Loma student lounge. noon-1 p.m.

**March 10 – Caribbean Pub.** St. James campus between 2-7 p.m. in the student lounge, 200 King St. E.

**March 24 – Camp Zu Pub.** St. James campus, 2-7 p.m. in the student lounge, 200 King St. E.

**March 26 – Niagara Peninsula winery tour** with Hospitality teacher Bjorn Rasmussen. Visit three wineries: Henry of Pelham Estate Winery, Cavespring Cellars and Vineland Estate Wines. Tour includes lunch with wine at Cavespring's new restaurant. \$39 per person. Also only 4 seats left for June 16-25 tour through France. For further information call 867-2260 between 10 a.m. and

2 p.m. or leave a message at 905-335-2159.

## SPORTS AND RECREATION

**March 1 and 8 – Intramural ice hockey** play-offs at Bill Bolton Arena.

**March 5 – Alumni Basketball** play-offs at Casa Loma

**March 8 – Instructional Tennis** starts, Tuesdays and Thursdays 4-6 p.m. at St. James

**March 22 – Girls high school basketball clinic** at Casa Loma, 4:30-7 p.m. Registration fee \$25.

**April 4 – Ball hockey and indoor soccer** campus wide championships

## MEETINGS

**March 1 – Board of Governors** general meeting in the boardroom at 500 MacPherson Ave. from 5 p.m.

**March 17 – College Council** meeting at 500 MacPherson Ave., boardroom, from 8:45 to 11 a.m.

**March 22 – Joint meeting between Human Resources and Academic and Student Affairs Committee** of the Board of Governors, 500 MacPherson Ave. boardroom, 5 p.m.

**March 29 – Finance and Property Committee** of the Board of Governors meeting, 500 MacPherson Ave. boardroom, 12:30 p.m.

**April 5 – Board of Governors** general meeting in the boardroom at 500 MacPherson Ave. from 5 p.m.

## SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

**March 9 – Career Planning Workshop** led by Bruce Schumacher, Career Development dept., St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., room 128 (Lecture Theatre) at 6 p.m. Registration required, please call 867-2464 or toll free 1-800-263-8995.

**March 14 and 15 – Staff professional development course: First Aid** provides participants with knowledge and skills in standard first-aid procedures according to the guidelines established by the Ontario Ministry of Labour. Registration fee: \$15 plus materials (\$8). At Nightingale campus, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Sheryl Wallis, ext. 2350 to register.

**March 22 to May 24 – Professional development course: Communicating Across Cultural Boundaries.** Bill Vine will present this course at St. James in room 458E. Role playing, video playback and other sensitizing



**SUMO WRESTLING AT PUB** – Students dressed in padded suits to resemble sumo wrestlers (above) and tried to whack each other off porches with padded sticks (below) at the student pub at St. James on February 10. The events, along with others, raised some extra money for the emergency fund. Winning tickets in the raffle to raise money for the fund were also drawn at the pub. The first prize was – \$1,000 cash or a year at college – was won by a Casa Loma student. The total amount raised for the fund has yet to be tallied.



activities will develop students skills in cross-cultural communication. The prerequisite is Cultural Understanding of Others.

**March 28 – Workshop: How to start your own business.** All staff and students are invited to this three-hour workshop presented by Henry Tse. Topics to be covered include marketing products, protecting ideas, advertising and market research, taxation, financing and raising start-up capital. St. James, Room 284C (200 King St. E.) from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Registration fee \$25. For information call Maria Bilbao in the St. James Placement Centre at 867-2098.

## ACADEMIC DATES

**March 14-18 – March break** for most post-secondary classes. The college will

remain open during this period and other services will be in operation.

## RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

**March 2 – Ala,** the 19-day fast begins, Baha'i

**March 9 – Lailat-ul-Qadr,** Islam

**March 11 – Mahashivaratri,** Hinduism

**March 11 – Juma-tul-Wida,** Islam

**March 13 – Eid-ul-Fitr,** Islam

**March 14 – Lent Monday,** Christianity

**March 16-20 – Ghambar Hamaspathmaedem,** Zoroastrianism

**March 20 – Spring Ohigon,**

**Buddhism**

**March 20 – 19-day fast ends,** Baha'i

**March 21 – Baha, Baha'i**

**March 21 – Naw Ruz,** Zoroastrianism

**March 26 – Birth of Prophet Zarathustra,** Zoroastrianism

**March 27 – Holī, Hinduism**

**March 27 – Palm Sunday,** Christianity

**March 27-April 3 – Pesach,** Judaism

**March 28 – Holā Mohalla,** Sikhism

**March 31 – Maundy Thursday,** Christianity

**April 1 – Good Friday,** Christianity

**April 3 – Easter, Christianity**